

MINTHIS HILLS

GOLF CLUB

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY 20th FEBRUARY 2017

Present: Stelios Patsalides, General Manager (SP)
Joke Alexandrou, Golf Club Manager (JA)
Chris Furneaux, Head Green-keeper (CF)
David McKibben, PGA Golf Professional (DM)

In attendance: Neil Storer, Captain (NS)
Bob Windsor, Vice Captain (BW)
Beverley Mitchell, Treasurer (BM)

Additionally: Thirty seven Minthis Hills Members attended the meeting, with apologies received from Mr. Maurice Stephenson, Mr. & Mrs. Peach, Mr. & Mrs. Silsby, Mrs. Jackie Lee, Mrs. Sandra Pope & Mrs. Gwen Jones

- 1. The meeting was opened by Stelios Patsalides who welcomed and thanked those present for their attendance and has announced the agenda for the AGM.**
 - a. SP thanked and congratulated all members for their participation as volunteers in the different golfing events the Minthis Hills committee together with Cyprus Golf Federation have organised, as well as for their participation at the social events organised in the Clubhouse. SP pointed out that the company is very happy with everyone for their last year's participation and that company will continue to support the new committee not only with the €500 the company offers yearly to the committee, but also he is always available for discussion over a cup of coffee with any member who would like to discuss any issues that come up.**
 - b. SP spoke about the new efforts all clubs started together with the CGF for the new Junior Golf Academy program and our very own members Terry Holt and Jackie Lee are representing Minthis Hills at the CGF Junior committee. This new system is working very well as we have already noticed an increase in junior's interest in the sport. Last weekend 120 juniors participated at the Nicos Severis Junior Open 2017 from 16 different countries. He stated how important is for our juniors to be around juniors from other countries as they gain new ideas and come in contact with different mentalities. Our juniors have now more opportunity to take part in tournaments being organised abroad.**
 - c. SP reminded everyone of the Special Olympics taking place at Minthis hills in June 2017 and that he is counting on all members support. This year our junior members will have the opportunity to be next to special needs children and**

support them for the day instead of bringing children from other schools like CGF does every year. Furthermore this year the Seniors Open 2017 which is one of the biggest events organised by the CGF is taking place at Minthis Hills on 23rd and 24th of September and again our members can offer their support as they always do.

- d. SP informed members that 10 buggies have been bought last year and the new machine for the green keeping department already showed a big improvement to the standard of the grass. In 2018 we will start the extension of the lake to make it bigger and to change the liner of the island green which is a big project. In 2017, as already mentioned before, the water problem will be solved with the recycled water we got permission from the government to bring from Paphos. The pipes have been bought and latest by September we will have everything ready. SP mentioned that there are plans with CF to place some sprinklers on the dead areas on the golf course. An agreement has been made with the Paphos water department that in the winter we will pump all water we will need for the summer. All above mentioned changes as per SP will cost approximately €1 million.
- e. SP also spoke about the new hole extension and he showed plans on the screen with the changes. A questionnaire is going to be sent out to ask members for two options, which will be, to keep the back nine as they are or to make them the front nine? For the extra hole there is a thought to use a lift to come up as the elevation is very high. The 11th hole it will be a par 3. The architects gave us different solutions but the company needs to decide by the end of May and all plans to be ready by June in order to start construction. First the construction will start on the golf course.

Chris Furneaux addressed the meeting:

- a. CF mentioned that 2016 has been a challenging year. We had 8 months of drought and then 5 weeks of wet weather followed by a very cold January & February which has not led to ideal growing conditions for sports turf. CF informed everyone that in order to cope with last year's drought an amount of €67.000 was spent on water consumption compared with the previous years where we really had to economise due to the Cyprus financial crisis.
- b. CF noted that our biggest achievement last year was the purchase of a new top of the range rough mower. He stated that these machines are not cheap; you could probably buy a new Porsche for less money. However it has already greatly improved the presentation and consistency of the height of cut of the golf course. He also added that we also invested in a new utility workman vehicle & 10 golf buggies.
- c. CF also mentioned that his staff number for 2017 has been increased by a total of 10 and this will of course lead to extra work carried out on the golf course which means that green keeping is now better covered to keep on top of work when holidays & sick leave are taken. He also added that we are fortunate because one of his staff, Andreas is also a professional vine farmer and last year for the first

time the grapes on the golf course were harvested which will be used to make the traditional Cypriot drink Zivania. In April he continued there are plans to plant extra vines on holes 3 & 7 in order to replace some of the older plants which were not producing grapes and have been removed.

- d. CF also commented about the greens that are performing well and aim to continue the same maintenance routine for them in 2017. He said that they may slow a little with anticipated spring growth but the aim is to keep them the same. Fairways, tees and round should also green up & become more lush once soil temperatures increase in the next few weeks.
- e. CF said also that this winter his aim has been to improve the grass coverage of the green surrounds in order to produce a more consistent future playing surface. Currently are being installed an extra 40 sprinklers on 10 different holes to improve the areas where the grass is weak and these will then be seeded & top dressed. He added that it may be necessary to rope off some of the heavy worn traffic areas for a month or two in order for the new grass to grow.
- f. CF hopes that funds will be released in order to continue planting the golf course borders and tee surrounds. Additional tree planting on holes 1, 9 & 16 is also scheduled.
- g. CF concluded that SP has already explained the main investment plan for capital improvements this year, thus he is expecting a busy summer for the green keeping team. It is encouraging, he finished, that the company plans to continually invest in the golf course and hopes that we all soon start to see things moving forwards during the next few months.

Stelios Patsalides added about Resort changes

SP added that the main entrance road from Konia continues according to plans and in September the works for the village square will start as well as for the SPA, tavern, coffee shops, etc. He explained that there will be a temporary parking area where the tennis court is now located and below the 10th hole there will be an underground parking of about 100 parking spaces. All permissions are already on hand and what is now expected are the funds to be released.

SP informed us that Peter Greenwood Jones is leaving the country soon and he took the opportunity to thank him personally for his support and contribution to the club.

SP also informed us this AGM would be last one for Joke as she will retire by the end of the year. He also greatly thanked Joke for being there for everybody and for the endless hours she put for the club all these years.

Joke Alexandrou addressed to the meeting:

JA thanked everyone for all the support they have given her, the club and the rest of the staff and hopes that when she is gone everyone will continue this support. She stated

that she knows that everybody pays a lot of money to become a member but also that everyone needs also to understand that it needs a lot of money to maintain a golf course especially here in Cyprus. JA added that when she leaves she will continue to come up for a coffee and she is planning to write a book about all the years at Minthis Hills. JA added that she is grateful for everything and remembered about the members who left the island permanently for the UK and other members whom unfortunately past away and also about some members who are sick and wished them fast recovery. She continued that we should all be grateful and we should all feel fortunate for being able to walk and are able to enjoy these surroundings, perfect weather and lovely atmosphere. JA also said that Chris is putting his soul out there with his staff and David is a very good Pro and person and he puts a lot of effort in his job. Closing she added that SP has been a very good colleague who kept everybody calm (staff & members) all these years and was making everyone happy.

Stelios Patsalides added:

SP added that he is very happy and proud of his staff and most are working here for a very long time like Niki at the Accounts for 21 years and Koulla for 20 years and himself for 19 years.

Beverley Mitchell presented the treasurer's report:

Mrs. BM presented the Treasurer's Report covering the financial performance of the Member's Club for the year ended 31 January 2017.

BM stated that the pre-circulated Accounts have been prepared in a format to provide members with a range of informative and comparable data with a view to giving a feel for how the Club's finances operate.

BM added that with the exception of those members who have recently joined the club, the Committee were charged with the task of reducing Members' Funds from €6,500 at the start of 2014, to €2,500 in a controlled manner over a 3 year period. The year just completed was the third and final year of this 3 year plan.

BM mentioned she is pleased to report that this year Members' Funds have been reduced by €1,102 and now stand at €3,067.

She explained that a major part of this reduction was due to the Committee's initiative to offer reduced entry fees for 3 Medal and 2 Stableford competitions, as well as enhancing the prizes for the Christmas Am-Am competition. The total impact of these initiatives was to reduce net competition income by €964.

BM added that the Financial Strategy Plan provided for an 80% prize fund for the Club's monthly competitions. The underlying prize percentages achieved during the year (after adjusting for the reduced entry fees and enhanced competition prizes referred to above) were 77% for Medals, 80% for Stablefords, and 71% for Fun and other competitions. The

latter percentage was greatly influenced by the inclusion of sponsored events, which attracted a reduced entry fee of €1 but with no requirement for the Committee to provide prizes.

BM added that the Financial Plan provided for a prize fund of 150% in respect of the Knock Out competitions. This year the prize fund amounted to 153%.

BM expressed the Committee's gratefulness once again to Management for the €500 contribution received from Minthis Hills Golf Club. These funds will undoubtedly help support our activities during the coming year.

BM concluded that the Club has made excellent progress in the final year of its strategic financial plan, and the Annual Accounts provide a solid, healthy basis for the future.

No questions were raised and the accounts were approved unanimously.

Neil Storer presented the captain's report to the AGM:

NS thanked all for coming to the AGM. He stated that the AGM is important in that it provides an opportunity for members, not only to receive information about the past year and the coming one, but also to raise any queries or concerns about the running of the Club.

NS said that it was great to hear the news in Stelios' and Chris's presentations, especially about all the new developments coming up and hopes that all are pleased to hear from BM report that the Club is in good shape financially.

NS believes that over the past few years the openness and communication between the Committee and the members have been improved and continued that the website and e-mailing system have been in the forefront of this improvement, and the incoming Captain has assured him this will continue to be the case.

NS said of the pleasure it has been for him to work closely with the Minthis Hills staff. He thanked Stelios for all he has done. He added he has an excellent team in Koulla, Margaret and Natalie, as well as Marios and the catering staff. Everyone has helped to make such events as Captain's Day and the Charity Day a great success. He continued with Joke, who is wonderful and he wished her on behalf of all members the very best for her retirement. He added about the helpfulness and friendliness for both girls in the Pro-Shop and that Pro-Shop provides an excellent first impression to visitors and potential new members alike. NS also mentioned about Jimmy, Nick and the rest of the caddy-master team who have made sure equipment is always set-up, ready when everyone arrives and have all

been very good in ensuring competitions keep as much as possible to schedule. He also complimented Chris and his team and the great job they did to improve the course and in keeping it playable during the wet winter and that it is looking better year in year out and for their hard work. Finally he said about David, who assisted him with various matters he had to deal concerning handicapping and who organised the open and qualifying competitions. More importantly his tuition was instrumental in helping NS to lower his handicap during the year to win the Most Improved Golfer trophy.

NS also thanked Bill Martin for taking over sponsorship of the Most Improved Golfer competition from Steve Mitchell, by providing a lovely Quaich (Scottish drinking cup) for the trophy.

He also wished Sandra Pope a speedy return to golf after her skiing accident and thank her for sponsoring a new competition starting this year - the Bob Pope Ladies' Trophy, which is for the Ladies what the Dave Armstrong Trophy is for the Men.

NS also announced that Sue and he are providing a trophy for another new competition - the Ladies' Order of Merit.

He also added that he is very grateful to the members of the Committee for helping to ensure the smooth running of his Captaincy; they have all worked very hard on members' behalf. Furthermore he stated that the enhanced sponsorship for the competitions and the varied social calendar is thanks to Peter Taylor's efforts.

NS encouraged more members to support the social events and if they have any suggestions as to how the Club can be improved, to enable members to get the most out of their membership, to let the Committee know.

He also thanked Sue, his wife, even though she asked not to. She too has worked very hard in the background providing input for decision making and reminding of important matters that sometimes may have slipped his mind.

He lastly thanked the members for their tremendous support and encouragement during the year. He continued that it is great to see that more members entered the various competitions during the year and of course this was the year that MH team brought the CGF Cup back to Minthis Hills.

He also, thanked Gwen & Sue I 'Anson's tenacity in selling raffle tickets, but more importantly the members themselves because of their generosity, something to be proud of. NS chosen charity, the Cyprus Kidney Association, is five and a half thousand Euros better off.

NS stated that this is best and friendliest golf club in Cyprus, and it has been an honour and a privilege for him to be its Captain, something he has enjoyed doing. It has been a lot of work but it's been rewarding too and it is going to be difficult for to let go and stand back. He continued that he is coming off the Committee to enjoy some well-earned holidays that would prevent him from providing the commitment necessary to stay on. However he has offered Bob, and in particular the new Competitions Secretary, any assistance they need to ensure a smooth handover.

NS encouraged anyone who has skills that could be useful, to offer their services to the Committee. This is all members Club and the more you put back into it the more you will enjoy it. He continued that it has been a pleasure to work with Bob this last year (when he wasn't on a cruise that is). He is confident he'll make a great Captain and he wished him all the best.

Closing he handed over to SP to preside over the election of the 2017 Committee.

Stelios Patsalides announced the 2017 Members Committee (no elections were necessary):

Bob Windsor – Captain

Brian Hamilton – Vice Captain

Graeme Nichol – Secretary

Roy Peach – Greens Issues

Peter Taylor – Social Secretary

Beverley Mitchell – Treasurer

Bob Windsor the new MH Captain addressed the AGM:

BW thanked 2016 committee for the fantastic job everyone did especially past captain Neil Storer who was very detailed and thorough at his work. Also Gill Cackett for her efficient communication skills and Beverley Mitchell as a treasure he noted that now he understands accounts because of the way she presented the treasurer's report. He continued that Peter Taylor did a fabulous job with all the social events he has organised during the year and he is certain that everything will be the same this year too. Roy Peach was also thanked for the perfect communication with Chris about the greens condition.

BW then mentioned that he knows SP for about 17 years and he is always amazing and great with everyone and Joke and the girls are all very friendly and ready to help everyone. He added also that the green staff is very good at their job and Jimmy is always friendly and understanding. BW continued that he played on all golf courses on the island and he thinks that the spirit of MH members and MH staff exceeds all the rest and he is proud to be part of this! He added that there will not be many changes on the monthly medal and on the monthly stableford but there are plans to make little different the fun competitions to make them more fun like fancy dress.

BW announced his Captain Charity will be 50% for Margarita Liasidou foundation and 50% for the Cyprus Samaritans. There will be no captain's bunker but he will place a gold box at the 10th tee and if members don't have cash with them they can leave IOU notes. BW closed his addressed by expressing how proud he feels to represent all members in the new committee and wished everyone a good year!

Stelios Patsalides asked if there were any questions

Three questions were raised:

1st question was if there are any plans to improve sports bar to make it look more like a golf bar, for example to move the trophy cabinet in there. SP said that the way the sport bar is designed there is not much space to move the trophies or the honours board however he took a note to discuss this matter around the middle of March when there will be a meeting with the interior designers.

2nd question was what will happen to the 18th tee with the renovations. SP respondent that is will be placed where the pine trees are and he showed some draft designs of the renovations which will start around June.

3rd question was about the discount offered to members that it is the same as the special offers we occasionally offer. SP responded he will examine and come back to that. However Koulla added that the discount offered to member guests is €50 p.p. for high season and €40 p.p. for low season period.

SP closed AGM by wishing everyone all the best for 2017.